

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR

THE 13TH FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



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Adopted at

The Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of
the Communist Party of China on October 29, 2015

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The first of the Two Centenary Goals¹ set by the Communist Party of China (CPC) was to make Chinese society moderately prosperous in all respects by 2020. The period covered by the 13th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development (2016–2020) will be decisive for seeing that this goal is achieved. As such, the 13th Five-Year Plan should be formulated with this goal firmly in mind.

Based on their comprehensive analysis of the situations both in China and abroad, the participants of the Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee concluded that while conditions are quite sufficient, many formidable tasks remain in ensuring that Chinese society becomes moderately prosperous in all respects within the set time frame, and that we must, on the basis of the foundations laid since the founding of the People's Republic of China and particularly since the beginning of reform and opening up, strengthen our confidence and press ahead to achieve this goal. On the strength of their research into the major development issues China will face during the 13th Five-Year Plan period, the participants put forward the following recommendations.

¹ They are: to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by the time the CPC celebrates its centenary in 2021; and to turn China into a modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, and harmonious by the time the People's Republic of China celebrates its centenary in 2049.

I. AN OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION AND OUR GUIDING THOUGHT

1. Major achievements during the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011–2015)

The period covered by the 12th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development has been an extraordinary time for development in China. Facing a complicated international environment and the challenging tasks of reform, development, and stability at home, the CPC has united and led the Chinese people in working tirelessly and with creativity, making further progress for the cause of the Party and the country.

We have responded effectively to major risks and challenges such as the lingering effects of the global financial crisis. In adapting to the new normal in economic development, we have worked constantly to come up with new methods of macroeconomic regulation and have pushed ahead to form a positive situation characterized by an improved economic structure, a shift in the forces that drive growth, and an acceleration of the transition to a new growth model. China has maintained its position as the world's second-largest economy, with an average per capita GDP for its more than 1.3 billion people increasing

to approximately US\$7,800. The value-added of the tertiary industry now accounts for a greater proportion of GDP than that of the secondary industry. Infrastructure has been improved across the board. Agricultural output has continuously increased. The rate of permanent urban residents has reached 55% of the population. A number of world-class advances have been made in science and technology. The system for public services has been basically established, and coverage has continued to expand. Job creation has remained on the rise. The number of people living in poverty has been reduced by a significant margin. New ground has been gained in making ecological progress. Living standards and quality of life have seen rapid improvement. Strong headway has been made in efforts to comprehensively deepen reform. We have seen constant expansion of the people's democracy. China has embarked on a new journey to see governance exercised in accordance with the rule of law. Major headway has been made in China's all-around diplomacy. Progress has consistently been made in the opening up of the country, and China has become the world's number one trader of goods and a major power in terms of outbound investment. The Chinese Dream of the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the core socialist values have gained a firm place in the hearts of the people. China's soft power has continued to develop in strength. Notable achievements have been

made in military reform with Chinese characteristics, and new steps have been taken to strengthen and revitalize the armed forces. The all-around strengthening of Party self-conduct has entered a new phase. Further progress has been made in increasing Party members' awareness of the Party's mass line, improving Party conduct, and building a clean government, which has won support from Party members and the people alike. China's economic strength, scientific and technological capabilities, defense capabilities, and international influence have all reached new heights, and the goals of the 12th Five-Year Plan will soon be achieved.

Of particular importance is that since the Party's 18th National Congress, the CPC Central Committee headed by General Secretary Xi Jinping has remained committed to upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics, has been bold in putting ideas into practice and adept at making innovations, and has deepened its understanding of the principles governing the CPC's governance, the development of socialism, and the development of human society. With this, it has developed new ideas and strategies for the governance of the country which will serve as effective theoretical guidance and a guide to action as we deepen reform and opening up and accelerate socialist modernization under the new historical conditions.

2. The basic environment for development during the 13th Five-Year Plan period

Peace and development remain the themes of our times. The trends of global multipolarity, economic globalization, cultural diversity, and IT application in society are all deepening. The world economy has experienced zigzag recovery from a deep decline. New technological and industrial revolutions are on the way. The global governance system is undergoing far-reaching changes. Developing countries are continuing to gain strength as a whole, gradually evening out the global balance of strength. At the same time, the deep impact of the global financial crisis will be felt for a considerable time to come, growth in the global economy and international trade is sluggish, protectionism is gaining ground, geopolitical relations are growing complex, traditional and non-traditional threats to security have become intertwined, and external instabilities and uncertainties are growing.

China has a strong material foundation, abundant human capital, a large market, and enormous development potential. The transformation of the country's growth model is gathering momentum, new engines for growth are in the making, and the economic fundamentals remain favorable for long-term growth. At the same time, unbalanced, uncoordinated, and unsustainable development is still a significant problem, the causes of which stem from

inefficient forms of development, inadequate capacity for innovation, serious overcapacity in certain sectors, deteriorating economic returns for businesses, and frequent major workplace accidents. On top of this, urban-rural and interregional development remains unbalanced, resource constraints are tightening, and we have not yet managed to fundamentally reverse the trend of ecological and environmental deterioration. The supply of basic public services is insufficient, the income gap is wide, population aging is picking up speed, and the task of alleviating poverty is becoming formidable. There is room for improvement in the propriety of our people and the general level of civility in society. Rule of law needs to be strengthened. Officials' ways of thinking, conduct, and ability still need to be improved, and CPC members and officials need to play more of an exemplary role. We will strengthen our awareness of latent difficulties and sense of responsibility, and work hard to improve the economic structure, bolster the engines for growth, solve those issues that are most pressing, and shore up areas of weakness.

Taking everything into account, we conclude that China remains in an important period of strategic opportunity for significant development, while it also faces grave challenges posed by multiple problems and increasing risks and dangers. It is crucial that we correctly understand the deep changes that are occurring in this period, respond more

effectively to all risks and challenges, continue to focus our strength on running our own affairs well, and constantly open up new horizons for development.

3. The guiding thought for development during the 13th Five-Year Plan period

We should hold high the banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics, fully implement the guiding principles from the Party's 18th National Congress and the third and fourth plenary sessions of the 18th CPC Central Committee, follow the guidance provided by Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development, and thoroughly put into practice the guiding principles from General Secretary Xi Jinping's major speeches. We need to implement the comprehensive strategy of finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, deepening reform, advancing the law-based governance of China, and strengthening Party self-conduct; continue to give top priority to development, while focusing on improving the quality and benefits of that development, and move faster to create systems, mechanisms, and growth models that guide the new normal in economic development; maintain strategic focus, seek progress while keeping performance stable, and make coordinated efforts to promote economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological progress as well as Party building

so as to ensure that we complete the establishment of a moderately prosperous society in all respects within the set time frame, and that firmer foundations are put in place for achieving the second centenary goal and the Chinese Dream of rejuvenating the Chinese nation.

We need to honor the following principles in order to achieve the goal of completing the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects within the planned time frame and to promote sustained, healthy economic and social development.

■ *Uphold the principal position of the people*

The people are the fundamental force that drives development, and realizing, safeguarding, and developing the fundamental interests of the largest possible majority of people is the fundamental purpose of development. We should adhere to a people-centered notion of development, make improving their wellbeing and promoting individuals' well-rounded development the starting point and ultimate goal of development, develop the people's democracy, safeguard social equity and justice, protect the rights of the people to participate and develop on an equal footing, and give full rein to their enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity.

■ *Remain committed to adopting a scientific approach to development*

Development is of paramount importance, but it must be carried out in an appropriate way. China is still in the

primary stage of socialism and will remain so for a long time to come, and its basic national context and primary social problems also remain unchanged—this is what we must keep in mind when planning for development. We need to keep economic development as the central task, remain cognizant of the realities of China's situation, grasp the new features of development, step up structural reform, and speed up the transformation of the growth model to achieve higher-quality development that is more efficient, equitable, and sustainable.

■ *Continue to deepen reform*

Reform is a powerful force that drives development. In line with the general objectives of improving and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics and modernizing our country's governance system and capacity for governance, we should improve the systems whereby the market plays the decisive role in allocating resources while the government also plays a better role. While placing particular emphasis on economic reform, we should work more quickly to improve systems and mechanisms in all areas and remove all systemic barriers to effective development in order to provide sustained impetus for development.

■ *Maintain the commitment to the law-based governance of China*

The rule of law is a reliable guarantee for development.

We should keep firmly to the path of socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics; work faster to establish a socialist rule of law system with Chinese characteristics; build a socialist rule of law country; see that a well-conceived approach is applied to forming legislation, the law is strictly enforced, justice is administered impartially, and everyone abides by the law; and move more quickly to bring economic and social development in line with the rule of law.

■ *Keep in mind both the domestic and international situations*

All-around opening up is imperative to development. We need to carry out development with an open door. While keeping our work focused on domestic issues and making full use of China's strengths in resources, markets, and systems, we should keep in mind the interconnectedness of the domestic and international economies and respond proactively to changes in the external environment so as to make better use of both domestic and international markets and resources, and promote benefit and development for all.

■ *Uphold leadership by the CPC*

Leadership by the Party is the greatest strength of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and the fundamental political guarantee for sustained, healthy economic and social development. We should implement the requirements of comprehensively strengthening Party self-conduct and continuously enhance the creativity, cohesiveness, and

capability of the Party as well as its governance capacity and performance in order to ensure that the ship of our country's development braves the waves to forge ahead along the right course.

II. THE MAJOR GOALS AND FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

1. New objectives for finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects

Since the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects was decided on at the Party's 16th National Congress, the Party and the Chinese people have been working hard to this end, with major progress being achieved in all areas. Over the next five years, on top of the existing objectives for creating such a society, we should strive to carry out the following new objectives.

■ *Maintain a medium-high rate of growth*

With a view to making development more balanced, inclusive, and sustainable, we need to ensure that China's 2010 GDP and per capita personal income are doubled by 2020. We need to balance major economic indicators, refine spatial development, and significantly improve investment and enterprise efficiency. Information technology needs to be further integrated into industrialization, production should move toward the medium-high end, advanced manufacturing should be developed more rapidly, and new industries and new forms of business should also continue to develop. The service sector should grow to account